AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A bioactive glass having a composition substantially comprising 30 to 60 mol % of CaO, 40 to 70 mol % of SiO_2, and 20 mol % or less of Na_2O, said bioactive glass having a glass transition temperature of 790°C or lower, wherein said bioactive glass is substantially free from P_2O_5 and is a sintering aid in a sintered calcium phosphate glass.

2. (Original) The bioactive glass according to claim 1, further comprising CaF_2.

3. (Original) The bioactive glass according to claim 1, further comprising B_2O_3.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The bioactive glass according to claim 1, wherein a difference between its glass transition temperature and its crystallization initiation temperature is 80°C or more.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A bioactive glass having a composition substantially comprising 30 to 60 mol % of CaO, 40 to 70 mol % of SiO_2, and at least one of Na_2O, CaF_2 and B_2O_3, Na_2O being 20 mol % or less, CaF_2 being 0.1-1 mol %, and B_2O_3 being 5 mol % or less, said bioactive glass having a glass transition temperature of 790°C or lower.

8. (Cancel)

9. (Original) The bioactive glass according to claim 7, wherein said bioactive glass is substantially free from P_2O_5.

10. (Original) A sintered calcium phosphate glass comprising the bioactive glass recited in claim 1 as a sintering aid.

11. (Previously Amended) The sintered calcium phosphate glass according to claim 10, wherein said sintered calcium phosphate glass contains a calcium phosphate comprising a hydroxyapatite, a carbonated apatite or tricalcium phosphate.

12. (Currently Amended) A bioactive glass having a composition consisting essentially of 30 to 60 mol % of CaO, 40 to 70 mol % of SiO_2, and 0.1-5 mol % of Na_2O, wherein said bioactive glass is a sintering aid in a sintered calcium phosphate glass.

13. (Currently Amended) A bioactive glass having a composition consisting essentially of 30 to 60 mol % of CaO, 40 to 70 mol % of SiO_2, 0.1-5 mol % of Na_2O, and 0.1-1 mol % of CaF_2.

14. (Previously Presented) A bioactive glass having a composition consisting essentially of 30 to 60 mol % of CaO, 40 to 70 mol % of SiO_2, 0.1-5 mol % of Na_2O, and B_2O_3.

15. (Previously Presented) The bioactive glass according to claim 12, wherein a difference between its glass transition temperature and its crystallization initiation temperature is 80°C or more.

16. (Cancel)

17. (Currently Amended) A bioactive glass having a composition consisting essentially of 30 to 60 mol % of CaO, 40 to 70 mol % of SiO_2, and at least one of Na_2O, CaF_2 and B_2O_3, Na_2O being 0.1 to 5 mol %, CaF_2 being 0.1-1 mol %, and B_2O_3 being 5 mol % or less.

18. (Previously Presented) The bioactive glass according to claim 12, wherein said bioactive glass is substantially free from P_2O_5.

19. (Previously Presented) The bioactive glass according to claim 17, wherein said bioactive glass is substantially free from P_2O_5.

20. (Previously Presented) A sintered calcium phosphate glass comprising the bioactive glass recited in claim 12 as a sintering aid.

21. (Previously Presented) The sintered calcium phosphate glass according to claim 20, wherein said sintered calcium phosphate glass contains a calcium phosphate comprising a hydroxyapatite, a carbonated apatite or tricalcium phosphate.

22. (Previously Presented) The bioactive glass according to claim 1, comprising CaO and SiO_2 in approximately equal molar ratios.

23. (Canceled)

24. (New) The sintered calcium phosphate glass according to claim 10, wherein said bioactive glass generates a ß-wollastonite crystal at a crystallization temperature.

25. (New) The sintered calcium phosphate glass according to claim 20, wherein said bioactive glass generates a ß-wollastonite crystal at a crystallization temperature.